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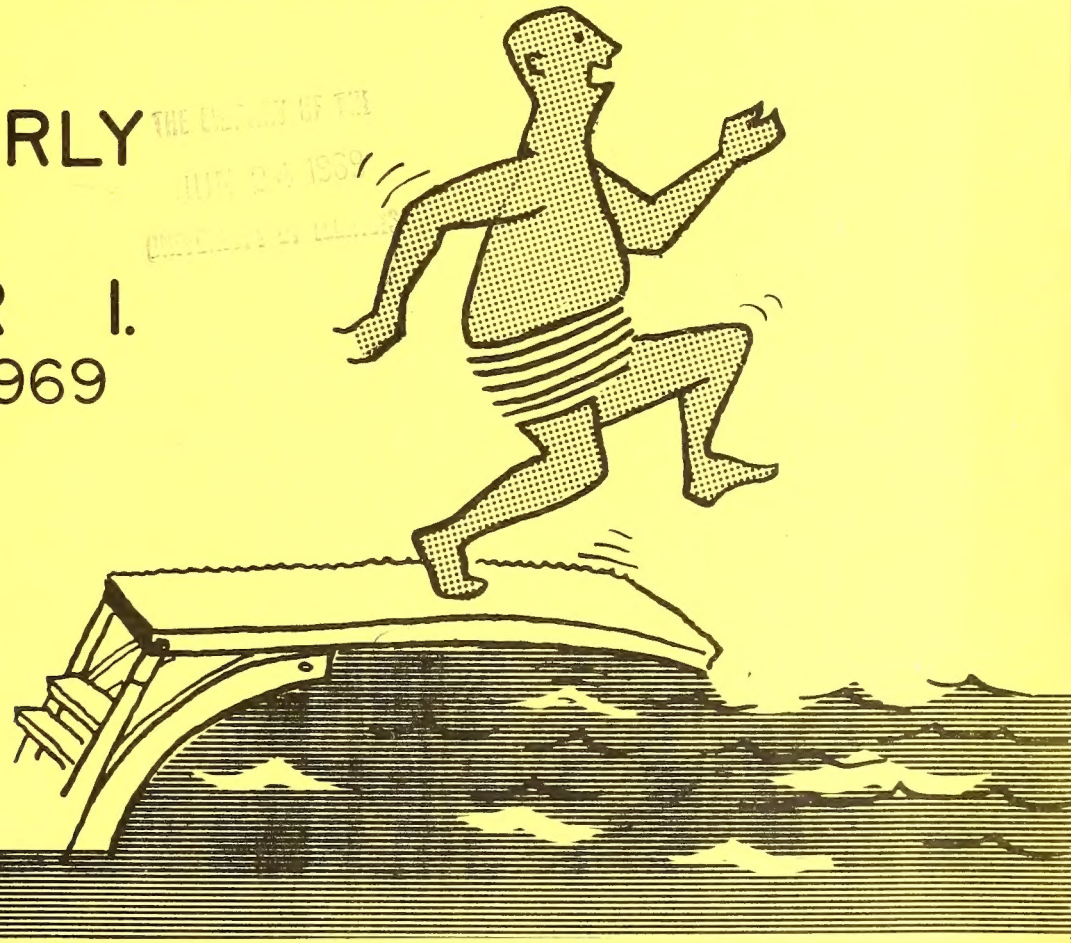
PROGRAM AND PARK DEVELOPMENT CONSIDERATIONS FOR STITES TOWNSHIP PARK DISTRICT

QUARTERLY
REPORT
NUMBER I.
APRIL 1, 1969



OFFICE OF RECREATION AND PARK RESOURCES

DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND
PARK ADMINISTRATION — UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

URBANA – CHAMPAIGN

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office of recreation and park resources

March 31, 1969

Dr. Allen Sapora
Head, Department of Recreation and Park Administration
University of Illinois
Champaign, Illinois 61820

Dear Dr. Sapora:

Herewith is a copy of Quarterly Report Number 1 for the Stites Township Park District Project.

The project director is Charles Pezoldt, Community Recreation Specialist. He is being assisted by Thomas Brown, a student majoring in recreation and park administration.

Active progress is being made in meeting the purposes outlined in the background section of this report.

Items listed under immediate purposes, numbered 2, 6, 7, and 8 have been completed.

The second Quarterly Report concerning this project will be submitted to you on July 1, 1969.

Sincerely

Joseph J. Bannon
Chief

JJB/jb

Encl.

STITES TOWNSHIP PARK DISTRICT

COMMUNITY RECREATION

AND

PARK PROGRAM

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PROGRESS REPORT

The following immediate purposes have been completed in this project:

Recommendations for procedures
to hire a director of parks
and recreation.

Discussing needs for facilities
and stimulating Board action
by giving the Board alternate
site patterns and facility
templates for study.

Recommending procedure for
the hiring of a professional
park planner and an architect.

Discussing preliminary ideas
for the location and construction
of a swimming pool.

PROCEDURAL STEPS

[illegible] TOWNSHIP PARK DISTRICT [illegible]

[illegible] AND PARK PROJECT

(A detailed report, which [illegible] the steps outlined [illegible] and recommends procedures to be used by recreation specialists in future projects of this type, is complete and on file at the Office of Recreation and Park Resources)

[illegible]	Date	Item
	(Continued from Step 67 as reported in the project report dated in February)	
[illegible]	January 29, 1969	Contacted attorney concerning condemnation procedures as they relate to a hearing with the Illinois Commerce Commission.
[illegible]	January 29, 1969	Informed County Advisor, Ba[illegible] concerning proposed plans [illegible] Township Park District.
[illegible]	January 29, 1969	County Advisor referred the Specialist to Wayne Siefert, who is establishing horticulture programs at Lake [illegible] and Granite City. Ideas for a pres[illegible] program and planting in [illegible] District were discussed. [illegible] and a visitation to Sikes by Mr. Siefert will be made.
[illegible]		Next Park Board Meeting
[illegible]		Discussion and preliminary preparation of Working Budget for 1969-70.
[illegible]		Specialist reaffirms the need to hire a Director at their March meeting.
[illegible]		Discussion was generated concerning the need to cooperate with the Neighborhood Opportunity Council (NOC)
[illegible]		Discussion was generated toward a decision concerning the location of the proposed park district swimming pool.

76		Board decision was made in regard to the size of the proposed park
77		The procedure to be used for park procurement was discussed.
78		Motion was made and passed by the board to inform the Village of Brooklyn and National City concerning all proposed plans of the park district.
79		Discussion concerning Federal Aid program
80		Discussion concerning the need to hire professional planners.
81		Specialist read letter from Dr. Sapora inviting President Barker to participate as a member of the planning committee at the University of Illinois Seminar.
82		Discussion concerning the hiring of University of Illinois Recreation Field Student.
83		Contacted the Union Electric Company.
84		Meeting with Brooklyn NOC Chairman and Recreation aide.
85		Contacted Miss Williams at the school to obtain history of Brooklyn.
86		The Specialist was introduced to the Lovejoy School principal.
87		Lunch with school Physical Education teacher.
88		Visited existing school locker and shower facilities.
89		Met with Real Estate department of the Terminal Railroad association in St. Louis.
90	March 3, 1969	Park Board Meeting
91		The board reviewed applications for the Directors' positions, interviewed applicants and hired a director.
92		The board reviewed potential park planner applicants and interviewed them.

Step Number	Date	Item
93		Preparation of Plan by Recreation Specialist for Land and Water Conservation Fund Request.

GUIDE
FOR DEVELOPING
AN
[illegible] OUTDOOR RECREATION PLANNING PROGRAM
FOR
STITES TOWNSHIP PARK DISTRICT
BROOKLYN, ILLINOIS

[illegible] Township Park District is a special district that was organized on [illegible] two miles north of East St. Louis and about two miles south of Venice.

[illegible] cities are situated within the boundaries of Stites Township Park [illegible] namely Brooklyn, with a population of about 1,500 persons, and National City with a population of about 70 persons.

A recent count of families in the district indicated that there are 545 [illegible] three hundred seventy-eight of the people are over 21 years of age. [illegible] are over 25 years of age, and there are 133 people over 60 years of age. There are [illegible] children attend the Lovejoy School located within the park district, of which about 260 are boys and 140 are girls.

A report of the Southwestern Metropolitan Plan Commission dated June 9, [illegible] indicated that there were 627 housing units in Brooklyn at that time. [illegible] hundred seventeen of these housing units were classified as being unsound (deteriorating and dilapidated), representing a total of 81.3%.

New housing has been constructed in the southern section of Brooklyn. More is contemplated during the next few years.

National City has 75 houses that are owned by the Swift Company.

Although the population in Brooklyn has been declining from 2,500 [illegible] in 1950 to the present day population of 1,500, it is anticipated that a [illegible] off process will occur.

[illegible] development of homes and apartments the population should [illegible] during the next ten-year period.

[illegible] Board. The [illegible] trict was established on July [illegible] provisions of the Illinois Park District Code [illegible] area with the standard powers and within the [illegible] in that code.

[illegible] Park District do not have access to or are not [illegible] the Neighborhood Opportunity Commission for the offering of some recreation programs.

The N.O.C. operates on a budget of about $7,000.00 per year. The program is funded on a year to year basis. Programs offered include a teen program, home arts, some playground programs (held at the Lovejoy School) and a senior citizens program.

The park district boundaries are indicated on the attached map (A).

THE STITES TOWNSHIP PARK DISTRICT BOARD'S RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER AGENCIES IN THE AREA

The Stites Township Park Board works in a cooperative manner with all existing [illegible] in the area.

[illegible] (Lovejoy School.) A coordinated recreation program is being established with the Neighborhood Opportunity Commission.

OUTDOOR RECREATION STANDARDS

National Outdoor Recreation Standards are currently under discussion by a [illegible] of the National Recreation and Park Association.

Stites Township park district is transited by numerous railroad tracks, freight yards, and the stock yards.

The land is the only area [illegible] open space (see Map 3) [illegible] to the residential area. The land which adjoins the Lovejoy School, however, a new high tension power line will divide the park from school property along the western border of the park. Railroad tracks and a busy street border the other sides of the [illegible].

The park will contain baseball diamonds, softball diamonds, tennis courts, basketball courts, playground apparatus, a recreation shelter and restrooms, a picnic area for passive recreation, and other outdoor recreation areas.

By [illegible] the [illegible] and [illegible] will be met and potential recreation resources will be conserved. There will not be any duplication of facilities.

The [illegible] of the park will enhance the beauty of Stifel Township Park District.

The need for the development of a community park is apparent. Because it is possible to locate this park adjacent to the existing Lovejoy School, a park district-school district program may be established. Presently, the school district does not have any playground other than an asphalt multi-use area.

OUTDOOR RECREATION OBJECTIVES

In light of the above discussion, the following objectives are outlined to guide the park district's efforts in providing for its outdoor recreation needs:

1. [illegible] neighborhood park of approximately 30 acres to meet the needs of its residents to 1980. The park should contain the following facilities:

   Baseball diamonds, softball diamonds, tennis courts, basketball courts, playground apparatus, recreation shelter with restrooms, picnic area.

2. To construct a swimming pool on property (asphalt area) to be transferred to the park district by the school district.

[illegible] cooperate with the school [illegible] in [illegible] developing [illegible] [illegible] of [illegible] [illegible] for [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] groups [illegible] the [illegible] Board [illegible] planning and [illegible] program which [illegible] of [illegible] recreation and park [illegible] of the area.

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

7. To investigate [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] might be [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] Land and Water Conservation [illegible]

50% General Obligation [illegible] [illegible] Township [illegible]

The park board has a bonding power of $130,000 by ordinance and $650,000 by referendum. It has no bonded indebtedness.

3. The park district will contract with a qualified firm to prepare plans for developing the site and the swimming pool. A committee composed of representatives of the park board, school board, city, and other interested groups will be formed to work with the consultant selected to develop a plan for the site.

4. The Park District will provide leadership in developing an overall outdoor recreation program to meet the community's needs. The same committee referred to above will be asked to work with the Park District in developing such a program and investigating ways of financing it.

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